

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 121-178, 182-185, 190, 195-218, 222, 224, 225, 230, and 235-239.

Claims 1-178 (Canceled)

179. (Currently amended) A method for treating a wood substrate comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting the wood substrate with a first aqueous solution comprising a metal salt solution, said metal salt selected from the group consisting of ~~silver, titanium, zinc, magnesium,~~ gold, platinum, vanadium, and cerium ~~and potassium,~~ or combinations thereof; and

(b) contacting the wood substrate with a second aqueous solution comprising an oxidizing agent solution, wherein said oxidizing agent is a peroxide and wherein said first and second solutions are contacted with the substrate for a sufficient time to stain the substrate.

180. (Previously presented) The method of claim 179, wherein the oxidizing agent is selected from hydrogen peroxide, sodium peroxide, zinc peroxide, calcium peroxide, barium peroxide and lithium peroxide.

181. (Previously presented) The method of claim 179, wherein the second aqueous solution further comprises tannic acid.

Claims 182-185 (Canceled)

186. (Previously presented) The method of claim 179, wherein the metal salt is a gold salt.

187. (Previously presented) The method of claim 179, wherein the metal salt is a platinum salt.

188. (Previously presented) The method of claim 179, wherein the metal salt is a vanadium salt.

189. (Previously presented) The method of claim 179, wherein the metal salt is a cerium salt.

Claim 190 (Canceled)

191. (Previously presented) The method of claim 179, wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of sulfates, chlorides, perchlorates, acetates, nitrates, permanganates, thiosulfates, and oxides, and combinations.

192. (Currently amended) The method of claim 179, wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of ~~silver sulfate, silver perchlorate, silver nitrate, silver chloride, zinc perchlorate, zinc sulfate, zinc peroxide, magnesium thiosulfate, magnesium nitrate, manganese (II) chloride, titanium III sulfate, titanium hydride, cerium (III) perchlorate and , titanium (IV) chloride, titanium (II) sulfate, cerium nitrate, and cerium (III) perchlorate,~~ and combinations thereof.

193. (Previously presented) The method of claim 179, wherein the metal salt solution is at a concentration between about 0.001% and about 20%.

194. (Previously presented) The method of claim 179, wherein the metal salt solution is at a concentration between about 0.025% and about 8%.

Claims 195-218 (Canceled)

219. (Currently amended) A method for treating a wood substrate consisting of:

- (a) contacting the wood substrate with a first aqueous solution comprising a metal salt solution, said metal salt selected from the group consisting of ~~silver, titanium, zinc, magnesium,~~ gold, platinum, vanadium, and cerium ~~and potassium,~~ or combinations thereof; and
- (b) contacting the wood substrate with a second aqueous solution comprising an oxidizing agent solution, wherein said oxidizing agent is a peroxide and wherein said first and second solutions are contacted with the substrate for a sufficient time to stain the substrate.

220. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the oxidizing agent is selected from hydrogen peroxide, sodium peroxide, zinc peroxide, calcium peroxide, barium peroxide and lithium peroxide.

221. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the second aqueous solution further comprises tannic acid.

Claim 222 (Canceled)

223. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the metal salt is a titanium salt.

Claims 224-225 (Canceled)

226. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the metal salt is a gold salt.

227. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the metal salt is a platinum salt.

228. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the metal salt is a vanadium salt.

229. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the metal salt is a cerium salt.

Claim 230 (Canceled)

231. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of sulfates, chlorides, perchlorates, acetates, nitrates, permanganates, thiosulfates, and oxides, and combinations.

232. (Currently amended) The method of claim 219, wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of ~~silver sulfate, silver perchlorate, silver nitrate, silver chloride, zinc perchlorate, zinc sulfate, zinc peroxide, magnesium thiosulfate, magnesium nitrate, manganese (II) chloride,~~ titanium III sulfate, titanium hydride, cerium (III) perchlorate, titanium (IV) chloride, titanium (II) sulfate, and cerium nitrate, ~~and cerium (III) perchlorate,~~ and combinations thereof.

233. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the metal salt solution is at a concentration between about 0.001% and about 20%.

234. (Previously presented) The method of claim 219, wherein the metal salt solution is at a concentration between about 0.025% and about 8%.

Claims 235-239 (Canceled)